been conducted into the matter and if so, what action Government have taken on the basis of the Inquiry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, *PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS* AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A case has been registered by the CBI against Lt. General (Retd.) Nirmal Puri and Shri Vinod Kumar Khanna, Chairman, Concord International (P) Ltd. New Delhi for offence u/s 120-B IPC read with Section 3/5 of the Official Secrets Act, 1923 and substantive offences u/s 3/5 of the official Secrets Act, 1923 for conspiracy to obtain/possess secret unpublished official information relating to procurement/use of arms and equipment in Indian Army during the period 1984-87.

(c) The investigation of the case is in progress.

Nationalisation of scheduled banks

2508. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to nationalise some more scheduled banks in the near future; and

(b) if so, what are the names of such banks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b) There is no such proposal under consideration of the Government.

Arrests of a retired Brigadier and a scientist

2509. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:
SHRI KAPIL VERMA:
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA:
SHRIMATI RATAN KUMARI:
SHRI M. KADHARSHA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a retired Brigadier of the Indian Army and a Government scientist have recently been arrested for their involvement in selling defence secrets to certain foreign countries; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof stating their modus operandi, the nature of their espionage activities and their contacts, if any, identified within and outside the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Brig. R.S. Diol (promoted ad-hoc as Major General in March, 1988 and retired on 30.6.1988) and Dr. N.W. Nerurkar, Adviser in the Department of Electronics were arrested by the C.B.I. on 10th & 11th November respectively under Official Secrets Act, 1923 for obtaining/possessing and communicating official secret document/information pertaining to the defence of the country to unauthorised persons/parties for being sent abroad.

(b) The cases are under investigation.

Export of iron ore

2510. SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that precious raw material in the form of iron ore is being exported every year